



Our Moment, Our Time

March
2015

March 4, 2015

Mississippi Department of Education Skills USA

Start: March 4, 2015 8:00 am

End: March 4, 2015 10:00 pm

March 5, 2015

Mississippi Engineering Society Annual Winter Board Meeting

Start: March 5, 2015 7:00 am

End: March 6, 2015 8:00 pm

March 6, 2015

Rotary Ole Man River P.E.T.S

Start: March 6, 2015 7:00 am

End: March 7, 2015 6:00 pm

Patti Labelle Live in Concert

Start: March 6, 2015 7:00 pm

End: March 6, 2015 11:00 pm

March 14, 2015

Mike Epps Real Deal Tour

Start: March 14, 2015 7:00 pm

End: March 14, 2015 11:55 pm



March 18, 2015

Women's Foundation of MS 2015 Luncheon

Start: March 18, 2015 11:00 am

End: March 18, 2015 2:00 pm

March 19, 2015

Ross and Yerger Health Fair

Start: March 19, 2015 7:00 am

End: March 19, 2015 2:00 pm

March 20, 2015

University of Mississippi Medical Center 2015

Match Day Ceremony

Start: March 20, 2015 10:00 am

End: March 20, 2015 2:00 pm

March 21, 2015

St. Patty's Day 5K

Start: March 21, 2015 12:00 pm

End: March 21, 2015 2:00 am

March 25, 2015

Phi Theta Kappa's Mississippi All Academic Team Recognition

Start: March 25, 2015 11:30 am

End: March 25, 2015 5:00 pm

(Source: www.jacksonconventioncomplex.com)



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Mayor Unveils Vision for the City of Jackson; Gets Buy-In from Various Constituent Groups

During a recent gathering at the historic Alamo Theatre on Farish Street, Mayor Tony T. Yarber shared with hundreds of citizens the plans to make Jackson a national leader in infrastructure and green initiatives. He also discussed plans for improved public safety and educational initiatives. The mayor's vision for Jackson is centered on five themes that describe the character of the city: vibrant, connected, innovative, prosperous and committed.

"Our city is poised to become a national model for infrastructure. The infrastructure master plan we're developing includes a five-year Capital Improvement Plan," the Mayor said.

The Capital Improvement Plan projects include roads, bridges, drainage and water projects. As part of the Infrastructure Master Plan, the city has included a focus on improving the condition of major gateways into the City.

He discussed how the IMP will also be an economic development tool as local residents will be sought to work on the projects. An improved infrastructure will make Jackson a more attractive location to outside industries.

The Mayor also reminded citizens that the Jackson Police Department is using all of its resources to combat crime in this city because Jackson's leadership has made public safety a top priority.

Jackson officers are active in the community. They offer a Citizens Police



Academy. They have a mentoring program for young males. They participate in reading programs in public schools. They've started offering self-defense classes for the community. They're also trying to bridge the communication gaps among our diverse populations.

The audience displayed their approval with thunderous applause as the mayor spoke to the common thread that holds the city's citizens together, not only as residents of Jackson, but fellow Mississippians.

The audience at the Alamo was comprised of representatives from constituent groups that included seniors, elected officials, faith-based organizations and business and education leaders. The mayor charged them all to take the message of unity and the information about the vision back to their respective neighborhoods and organizations.

Data Company to Build Technology Center in Jackson

Mayor Tony T. Yarber and Governor Phil Bryant recently joined University of Mississippi Medical Center officials in welcoming a new company to Jackson.

VenYu Solutions, LLC, is a Baton Rouge, La.-based data company that will build a technology center that, in part, will house one of UMMC's fastest growing services— telehealth.

VenYu Solutions will construct a stand-alone, 16,000-square-foot facility to accommodate the increase in the services UMMC's Center for Telehealth provides to hospitals, clinics, corporations and patients across the state. The lease will begin on or around July 1, 2016.

The VenYu Technology Center will be constructed at the site of the former McRae's department store on the corner of Meadowbrook Road and State Street in the Fondren neighborhood. In addition to the new building, existing structures such as the former McRae's building will be renovated to host a data center for VenYu, with plans for other businesses in the future.

"Throughout the years, VenYu has provided data center services and other critical services to many health-care organizations, but few have embarked upon such an innovative approach to delivering medical advice and care," said Scott Thompson, founder and CEO of VenYu. "We are proud the University of Mississippi Medical Center has selected our new Technology Center in Jackson to help host their telehealth operations. We greatly look forward to the positive impact these new services will have within the community."

Said Gov. Bryant: "We are not only growing the medical corridor in the Jackson metro area, we are ensuring we have the infrastructure in place to develop new health-care solutions that can improve the lives of Mississippians."

The repurposing of the now empty store and parking lot also falls in line with the revitalization of the city, a key goal celebrated by Jackson's leaders.

"As a city, we are extremely excited to see the expanding reach of the



health-care corridor here in The Bold New City," said Mayor Yarber. "This development speaks not only to economic growth and technical innovation but also to the developing workforce being trained by the great universities in our capital city.

"As this Telehealth Center is being developed, we are determined to ensure that progression and revitalization – such as this project – happen throughout Jackson, Mississippi," added Yarber.

Most of the new technology center's structures already exist, but the building to house the UMMC Center for Telehealth is being specifically designed to meet the growing demand for the services around the state.

"The new space for UMMC's Center for Telehealth demonstrates our commitment to a healthier Mississippi," said Dr. Kristi Henderson, chief telehealth and innovation officer at UMMC. "We have to approach healthcare differently if we expect a different result.

"Telehealth allows us to bring healthcare to people in their community, at their workplace, schools or in their homes," she added. "This new center will give us the space to meet the demand and serve as a center of excellence for Mississippi's telehealth." (Source: The University of Mississippi Medical Center).

Jackson Welcomes New Business Luby's Inc.

Mayor Tony T. Yarber and a contingent of local leaders welcomed Luby's and Fuddrucker's Restaurant to the city during a grand-opening event in February.

Luby's, Inc., has brought two of its iconic restaurant brands together on a prime site at 5471 I-55 North in Jackson. The dual concept location, which will incorporate both a Luby's cafeteria and Fuddrucker's fast casual restaurant, debuted on February 18.

The venues occupy a free-standing, 13,000-square-foot structure. This is the first side-by-side development outside the company's home state of Texas, where Luby's, Inc. has five similar offerings. The prototype was introduced in 2012.

According to Peter Tropoli, Chief Operating Officer of Luby's, Inc.: "We're looking

forward to doubling down in Jackson with a pairing of brands that are focused on quality and convenience, which we feel will resonate well in this community."

A portion of the opening day sales benefitted the American Cancer Society, kicking off a relationship with the organization that will continue to build momentum over the following months with initiatives leading up to the 30th anniversary of Relay for Life, an international fundraising and awareness movement.

This year, the Relay for Life of Jackson event will take place at LeFleur's Bluff State Park on May 22 from 6 p.m. until midnight.

Founded in 1980, Fuddrucker's is acclaimed for

it's always fresh and never frozen, 100% USDA premium-cut beef with no fillers or additives, made-from-scratch buns that are baked on-site throughout the day and Build Your Own produce bar, featuring fantastic fixings like sun-ripened tomatoes, lettuce, sliced onions, dill pickles, pico de gallo and classic cheese sauce. The 3,000-square-foot Jackson location with seating for 92 will feature décor that reflects the brand's classic Americana origins with a fun, welcoming ambience that is ideal for a family outing, business lunch or a date night. (Source: Luby's Inc.)



Business of the Quarter: Hesselbein Tire Company

Hesselbein Tire Company, Inc. was named the city of Jackson's business of the Quarter for the period beginning January 2015. President-Owner Denny King said his business philosophy is simple: "Always be honest with everyone."

The original owners of the company were Bob Dunlap of Batesville and Ronnie Hesselbein of Jackson. The pair opened the original location on Lynch Street in the summer of 1967. King became employed with the company in the fall of 1967. When Hesselbein retired 22 years ago, King bought into the existing partnership at the Lynch Street location. While the business has expanded over the years, the original location at 3004 Lynch St. has remained and now operates as one of the retail locations in the Gateway Tire and Service Center arm of the business. Hesselbein Tire Company is affiliated with Dunlap and Kyle Company and Gateway Tire, which has a home office in Batesville, Miss. The organization has 15 wholesale locations in seven different states and 60 retail stores. The wholesale operation ranks in the Top 5 in the USA. The organization's sales for the year exceeded \$600 million. King has 2 sons and several grandchildren that are also actively involved within the business. The City of Jackson is thankful to have Hesselbein Tire Company as one of its partners as the city moves forward.



COPS Meetings Promote Community Involvement

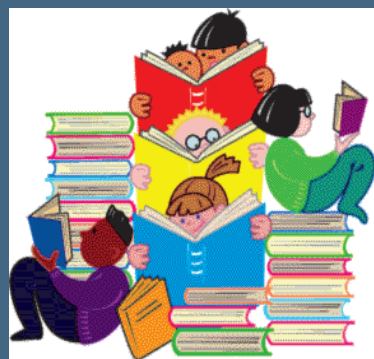
The public is encouraged to come to COPS (Community-Oriented Policing Services) meetings. It's another way for the community to become more involved in the city's progress. COPS meetings are held every Thursday of the month, rotating in JPD's police precincts. Featured speakers include representatives from the Mayor's Office and all City Departments. The meeting is held in **Precinct 1**, 810 Cooper Road, the first week of the month.

Precinct 2, at the Metrocenter, 3645 Highway 80 West, the second week of the month.

Precinct 3, 3925 W. Northside Dr., Suite A, the third week of the month.

Precinct 4, at Redeemer Church at 640 Northside Dr., the fourth week of the month.

For more information, contact Ashley Drummer, Constituent Services Representative, at 601-960-2363.



Early Childhood Development Centers Implement Project Read

Children enrolled in the City of Jackson's childcare facilities will get a jumpstart on reading through the new Project Read initiative. Four-year-olds preparing to enter kindergarten in fall 2015 will receive literacy instruction utilizing the Project Read Curriculum. This curriculum lays a firm foundation for phonemic awareness, sound and symbol correspondence, word construction, and text reading. Each lesson is delivered utilizing basic strategies that lay the foundation for early literacy. Applications are currently being accepted and can be acquired online only at www.childcareinfo.ms. For more information contact Jewell Reed at 601.960.0347.

Mayor Tony T. Yarber Invites Citizens to Participate in 'Jackson Reads'

Mayor Tony T. Yarber will host the "Jackson Reads" kick-off reception on Tuesday, March 3, at Jackson State University's Margaret Walker Center from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. The event is open to the public.

The selected book is "Jubilee" by Margaret Walker, and was chosen as part of the Margaret Walker Centennial Celebration this year.

"Jackson Reads" invites the entire city to read one book and take part in a shared experience. The project aims to ignite a conversation about great literature and to broaden literary and cultural horizons.

As part of the project, a special Margaret Walker coloring book has been commissioned for young children. Every pre-K student at the city's early childhood development centers and first-graders of Jackson Public Schools will receive the coloring book in their classrooms.

The public is also invited to the Mayor's Book Discussion led by Dr. Alferdteen Harrison at the Smith Robertson Museum & Cultural Center on March 26 from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

This is a month-long celebration. **Target Audience:** Adults Young adults (including high school and college students)

Elementary students (Pre-K and 1st graders)

Scheduled Activities:

Tuesday, March 3, 2015

Jackson Reads Kick Off Reception - Hosted by Mayor Yarber

Margaret Walker Center
5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Thursday, March 19

Mayor Yarber Introduces the Margaret Walker Coloring Book - Poindexter Elementary

Thursday, March 26, 2015

Mayor's **Jackson Reads** Book Discussion | *Jubilee*

Led by
Dr. Alferdteen Harrison

Smith Robertson Museum & Cultural Center

5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Live Questions will be taken from Twitter and asked during the book discussion

Tuesday, March 31, 2015

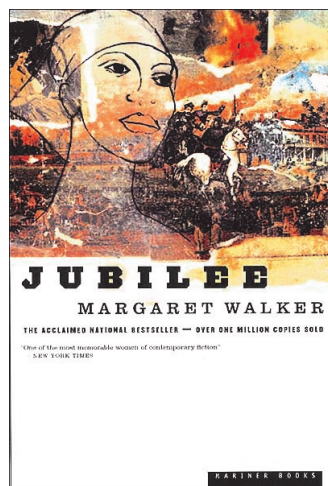
Jackson Reads Community Book Discussion | *Jubilee*

Lemuria Bookstore
6 P.M. - 7 P.M.

Other Associated Activities:

Jackson Reads Instagram Contest - Entire month of March

To Enter: Post on Instagram, a photo of reading the book or participating in a **Jackson Reads** event and using either of the selected hashtags: #jacksonreads and/or #jubilee.



Winner announced for each week (no duplication in winners; no city employees; must use one of the selected hashtags: #jacksonreads and/or #jubilee to qualify).

Week 1: March 2 - 6

Week 2: March 9 - 13

Week 3: March 16 - 20

Week 4: March 23 - 27

Prizes: \$10 gift card from Lemuria Bookstore each week to winner.

Photos must be submitted. Creativity is encouraged. Winners will be notified.

"Jackson Reads" is sponsored by the Office of the Mayor, City of Jackson, Jackson Convention & Visitors Bureau, Jackson-Hinds Public Library System, and Lemuria Bookstore. Participating organizations include the Margaret Walker Center at Jackson State University, Jackson Public Schools, and Dr. Wilma Mosley-Clopton.

The Department of Parks and Recreation gears up for summer park activities

The Department of Parks and Recreation is currently recruiting for pool managers and lifeguards. Persons interested can apply at the Department of Personnel Management office located at 1000 Metrocenter, Suite 102.

The department is also offering swim lessons. Signup begins May 1. Lessons start June 1, and will be held at Vine Street,

Terry Road, and Grove Park pools. The cost is \$10 per session.

Pools open May 25 and the hours of operation will be Monday – Saturday 2:00pm – 5:00pm. The cost is \$1 for children

and \$1.50 for adults. Pool reservations will be accepted starting May 1. For more information, contact Charles Melvin at 601-573-4328.



City Seeks Volunteers

The City of Jackson seeks volunteers for the Great American Cleanup.

The activities will include litter/vegetative pickup; recycling; tree planting and beautification and paper shredding.

Each year, the City and Keep Jackson Beautiful, the certified affiliate of Keep America Beautiful, partner on a cleanup mission to instill in our citizens a cleanliness ethic that eliminates littering,

encourages recycling, protects the future of urban forests and beautifies public spaces.

Between March 1 and May 31, the Great American Cleanup is the nation's largest organized anti-litter and recycling campaign. This event involves several thousand volunteers in the Jackson area each year. The groups work with neighborhood associations,

schools, churches, youth groups, civic groups or anyone who wants to organize a cleanup project.

For more information or to organize cleanup projects, please contact Keyshia Sanders at 601.960.1084, Alicia Crudup at 601.960.0000, or Marsha Hobson at 601.398.5219.



Free Diabetes Management Classes Offered to Jackson Citizens

Free diabetes management classes are offered at two City of Jackson community centers for the next several weeks. The classes will be led by Lisa Camel, RN, BSN, project leader for Information & Quality Healthcare. The classes are open to the public. A six-week class at T.L. Love Center, located at 2912 Holmes Ave., will run from Feb. 3 to March 10. The class begins at 10 a.m. A five-week class will be held at Golden Key Community Center, located 3450 Albermarle Road. The dates are March 18 and March 25, and April 1, April 15, and April 29, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For more information, contact 601 960-2160.

Whose Life Are You Running For?

Get ready, Central MS Steel Magnolias Susan G Komen

16th Annual Race for the Cure® Downtown Jackson, Mississippi at the Old Capital War Memorial.

Komen Central Mississippi Race for the Cure 2014 April 11, 2015 Downtown Jackson Mississippi

All funds from the Komen Race for the Cure go to research, education, screening and treatment programs.

We had over 2500 participants at the 2014 Race, we would like to see 3,000 participants walking or running for the cure, so start recruiting your team now! We plan to raise \$150,000 with this event and we need your help to reach our goal! (Source: www.komencentralms.org)



Serving Our City through Jobs for Jacksonians



The Jobs for Jacksonians initiative continues to help employ city citizens and build partnerships with area businesses. The program offers a variety of services and training opportunities to assist participants as they prepare for and obtain work. These services include: job readiness workshops, employer recruiting sessions, an annual job fair, and job search and placement assistance. The program is committed to strengthening the capacity of Jackson residents to secure employment, re-enter the workforce and remain employed. Those interested in participating, may visit the Department of Human & Cultural Services, located inside the Metro center Mall and complete an application. Residents may also contact the Jobs for Jacksonians hotline at 601-961-4JOB to schedule an appointment to discuss employment opportunities. We encourage all to visit www.jacksonms.gov to get a listing of current and future recruitment sessions. For more information contact Jonathan Barnett at 601.960.0377.

Jobs for Jacksonians
Jonathan Barnett 601-960-0377

Fresh Start Program
Wanda Smith 601-960-0458

Risk Management/Claims
601-960-1738

JATRAN/Public Transit
601-960-1887

Water and Sewer 601-960-1179

Constituent Services
601-960-1084

Action Line 601-960-1111

Become Part of Our Super Neighborhoods



As a neighborhood of neighborhoods, we are connected to each other through common goals and ideas about quality of life. Super neighborhoods are now being created to encourage residents, businesses, faith-based institutions, schools, and non-profit organizations of neighboring communities to work together to identify,

prioritize and address the needs and concerns of the broader community. This forms a manageable framework for community action and allows the city to provide services more efficiently.

A super neighborhood is a geographically designated area where residents, civic organizations, institutions and businesses work together to identify, plan and set priorities to address the needs and the concerns of their community. Six super neighborhood boundaries have been

created: South, Southwest, Northwest, Northeast, West Central, and Central Jackson. The super neighborhood elects a council comprised of area residents and stakeholders that serves as a forum to discuss issues and identify and implement priority projects for the area. For more information, contact Keyshia Sanders at 601-960-1499.

The next Super Neighborhood meeting is April 18, from 9 a.m. to 1:p.m. at the Jackson Police Training Academy, 3000 St. Charles Street.

Housing Program Offers Grants to Qualified Applicants

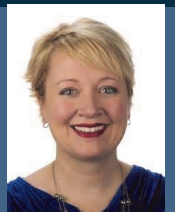
Jackson residents who are in the market for a new home have an opportunity to get a sizeable grant toward the purchase. Mayor Tony T. Yarber, the Mississippi Home Corporation and other

partners are promoting the Home Buyer Advantage. That's a federal grant offered through M-H-C. Qualified applicants can receive up to \$40,000. There are about 30 homes in the city set aside

for this program. Once all the properties are sold, the program is over. Visit www.mshomecorp.com for more information.

It's time to Say Good Things about Jackson

There's still time to say good things about Jackson. On Jan. 28, Clarion-Ledger Community Engagement Editor Dawn Dugle issued a challenge to the citizens of Jackson to say "good things" about the city for the next 100 days. The challenge came after Mayor Tony T. Yarber met with the newspaper's editorial board. The Mayor commented that one of the city's biggest problems is perception. He says there are many positives in Jackson that are often overlooked. Dugle seized the opportunity to challenge others to say good things about Jackson via social media, using the #GoodThingsJXN hashtag.



Here's an excerpt from her column: "We know there are many more good things going on in Jackson, that's why I invite you to take the #GoodThingsJXN challenge. Every day for 100 days, tweet or Facebook about the great things we have going on in our capitol city. If you can take a picture with your suggestion, even better. Use the hashtag, and also tag Mayor Yarber on Twitter.

At the end of the 100 days, we'll compile the "best of" list and let you vote on what you think the best "Good Thing" about Jackson is... Can't wait to see what you come up with."

Volunteer Greater Jackson Center



If you want to volunteer in Jackson, you now have a place to sign up. The Greater Jackson Chamber recently announced the opening of the Volunteer Greater Jackson (VGJ) center. Mayor Tony T. Yarber, former Governor Ronnie Musgrove, and Chamber members were on hand for the opening in February.

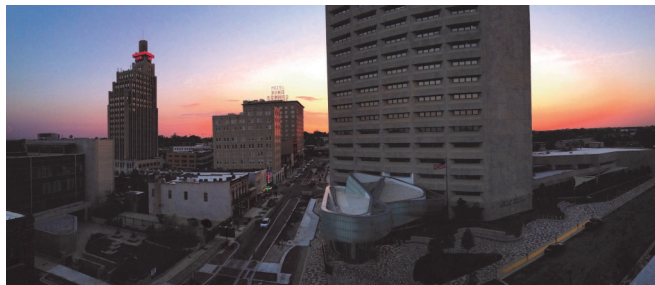
VGJ is one of the exciting initiatives to emerge from Vision 2022 - the Chamber's long-term plan to develop and improve economic opportunities within the Greater Jackson area. In November 2014, a grant through Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Service (Volunteer Mississippi) was awarded to VGJ to initiate the center.

VGJ will connect volunteers and businesses to non-profits, arts and civic groups in and around Jackson. It will match the skills and schedules of volunteers with opportunities at organizations in need. Additionally, VGJ will educate volunteers and receiving organizations in best practices, coordinate volunteer activities for days of service or disaster relief, and facilitate corporate volunteer management. In the event of disaster, VGJ will be prepared to extend its services beyond its target area of Hinds, Madison, and Rankin counties.

Jackson Skyline Competition Winners Announced

The city has new, official skyline images following a competition that drew dozens of participants. "The entries were outstanding," Mayor Tony T. Yarber said. "One of the jewels in our city is the amazing cultural talent that keeps Jackson vibrant." Ken Gordon of Jackson won 1st Place in the professional category. Corey Aldridge of Jackson won 2nd Place and Rodney McGee and Mark Geil, both of Jackson, received Honorable Mention. Arash Ghahramani of Jackson won 1st Place in the hobbyist category. Natalie Maynor of Jackson won 2nd Place and Kendrick Wilson of Jackson, Michah Gober of Madison and Jodie Wright of Madison received Honorable Mention. The photographs shot by Gordon and Gharamani are now the official skyline images. The competition was sponsored by the Jackson Visitors and Convention Bureau and Deville Camera & Video.

Ken Gordon



Arash Ghahramani



Mayor's Task Force for a Healthier Jackson Taking Health Message to the Community

The Mayor's Task Force for a Healthier Jackson is taking a health message and preventive care to city employees and the community. The group is led by Dr. Timothy Quinn. So far, the task force has conducted blood pressure screenings to more than 200 city of Jackson employees. Employees with elevated levels were encouraged to follow up with a medical clinic. The employees also received follow-up calls from task force members. The task force also has begun faith-based outreach screenings. Task force members shared the vision of the Mayor in regard to the citizens of Jackson achieving a healthier life.

The next faith-based screenings are scheduled for

March 8

Jackson Revival Center
Church 519 W. Silas Brown

March 15

New Horizon Church
1770 Ellis Ave.

March 22

New Canney Creek Baptist
Church, 815 McCluer Road

March 29

Cherry Grove Baptist Church
905 Rondo St.

**JACKSON
CITY COUNCIL**

Ward 1,
Ashby Foote
601-960-2051

Ward 2
Melvin Priester, Jr.
601-960-1091

Ward 3
Kenneth I. Stokes
601-960-1090

Ward 4
De'Keither Stamps
601-960-2052

Ward 5
Charles Tillman
601-960-1092

Ward 6
Tyrone Hendrix
601-960-1089

Ward 7
Margaret Barrett-Simon
601-960-1063

Sign Up for Code Red and Tip 411



The city is urging Jackson citizens to sign up for the emergency alert system Code Red. It's easy to do, just visit the website at www.jacksonms.gov and click on Code Red.

The system informs you about emergencies and provides other alerts, including boil water notices and evacuation notices.

Jackson residents now have a tool they can use to fight crime in their own community. The city has a new service called, Tip411. Tip411 allows residents to text or submit tips to police anonymously. When a resident sends information to police using tip411, the system removes all identifying information. Residents simply need to text their tip to 847411 and begin their message with "JPD."



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